



# THE METER

MONDAY  
April 7, 2008

Serving the Tennessee State University community since 1950

NASHVILLE, TENN.

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## what's inside



The Meter editorial board makes SEC endorsements. Page 4



Day 26's debut album storms the charts. Page 14



Former Tiger looks for football program to roam. Page 21

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## DEGREES DENIED



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Four of the TSU Freedom Riders--Allen Cason, Mary Jane Smith, Etta Simpson, and Rip Patton--appeared at the 23rd annual Great Debate at TSU on March 4.

By Acquanetta G. Donnell Jr.  
News Editor

With a 7-5 vote, members of the Tennessee Board of Regents denied a proposal to award 14 former TSU, then Tennessee A & I, students honorary degrees at their meeting held Friday, March 28.

These students, popularly known as the Freedom Riders, 47 of years ago were expelled from TSU and unable to attain degrees in their prospective fields.

The TBR board decided the former students would not be given honorary degrees; however, they will receive a special recognition ceremony in which they may be awarded a medallion.

According to TSU President Melvin N. Johnson, TSU submitted a request for the students to be awarded the degrees because of the inspiration to students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni and members of the local, national and world communities with their courage, grace in tremendous odds, integrity and commitment to equality and the public good.

"The committee met on this and there was a discussion," said Mary Morgan a representative from the TBR. "There was a difference of opinion to recognize the Freedom

Riders. We even discovered that some of the Freedom Riders were in academic trouble and on the verge of being expelled."

The Freedom Riders were a group of students in the city of Nashville that are responsible for the integration of downtown Nashville in the 60's during the Civil Rights Movement.

The Freedom Riders were students from TSU as well as Fisk, are also responsible for conducting sit-ins at restaurants in which they were not allowed because of segregation laws. The students were beaten, taken to jail, and even killed for wanting during the era.

"Freedom Riders are very important and we want to recognize them, but not with degrees," said Morgan.

The Freedom Riders from TSU were suspended during the presidency of Walter S. Davis after being arrested in Mississippi in 1961 after participating in the Freedom Rides a non-violent act of civil disobedience.

While still jailed in Mississippi, some of the students received letters from TSU that stated that they were being expelled; however, not all of them received the same letter.

"I never received a letter from TSU while in jail in Mississippi," said Allen Cason, a Freedom Rider who was not only arrested in Mississippi, but also in Georgia. "I went

See "Committee" on page 7

## SEC Week begins with 'unity' nomination convention on Sunday

Jennifer E. Butler  
Copy Desk Staff

On Sunday afternoon, the Student Election Commission kicked off their week with the annual nomination convention. Student government hopefuls filed into the Floyd-Payne forum to accept their nominations.

Michelle Ashley, SEC chair, commenced the event by introducing a proposed two-part referendum.

The referendum is to ask students to decide if Mr. TSU should be an elected position, chosen during SEC Week; it is also to ask students if they are willing to add an extra dollar to the student activities fee to support Mr. and Miss Tennessee State University.

SGA President Xandelyn Wright then attempted to give the candidates words of wisdom for their campaigns.

"(Campaigning) is the fun part, but the real journey begins when you get in the office," said Wright, a senior interdisciplinary studies major from Houston. "Stepping up to leadership, that is truly an honor, a privilege, and (the candidates) should have pride for just showing up today."

"Nominations began with Representative-At-Large Day positions. Candidates employed power words such as unity and greatness to explain their platforms to convention attendees. They also wanted to clarify the position.

"This office consists of serving as a student representative for the student body as a whole, recruiting, and serving on SGA committees as a student body representative," said Keiosha Alexander, a sophomore Biology major from Memphis and a candidate for Representative-At-Large Day. "It was created for students to have a go-to person to come to with issues or concerns with the university."

Representative-At-Large Evening candidates expressed similar platforms, each wanting to bring something. Blake Nathan, a candidate for the position, told attendees that his goal in running is to "bring out the Tiger" in students; Audarryl Morris wants to "bring back the funk" to TSU.

See "Candidates" on page 7



# KEIOSHA ALEXANDER

## THE GREAT



FOR  
REPRESENTATIVE-AT-LARGE  
DAY  
2008-2009

### Events Calendar

Monday	Wednesday
SGA Forum 4 p.m. FPCC Rm 210 President & VP Debate 6 p.m. FPCC Rm. 210	Miss TSU Pageant 7 p.m. Kean Hall
Tuesday	
SGA Candidates Rally 4 p.m. Gentry Center Class Officers Forum 6 p.m. FPCC Rm. 210	
Mr. TSU Pageant 8 p.m. Kean Hall	

### THE METER

The Measure of Student  
Opinion and Sentiment

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Web site: www.tsumeter.com

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The Meter's mission is to accurately and responsibly report the "highlights and lowlights" of Tennessee State University and its community so that we may foster positive results while reflecting the university's multicultural student body.

#### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Meter invites submission by all members of the Tennessee State University community. Timelines and clarity are factors in selecting material for publication. Materials must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All contributions must be typed and sent by e-mail.
- Opinions and letters should not exceed 400 words.
- The Meter reserves the right to reject letters, articles or ads without explanation and to edit others as necessary.

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Meet the Candidates for  
the 2008-2009 SEC Week  
online at  
[www.tsumeter.com](http://www.tsumeter.com).

### 3-day Weather Forecast



**Monday**  
Mostly sunny  
High: 73°



**Tuesday**  
T-Storms  
High: 73°



**Wednesday**  
Sunny  
High: 62°

Source: Weather.com



VOTE WB' APRIL 11TH, 2008

# People

WARREN BURKE

SGA  
VICE PRESIDENT

Vote for Someone  
who is dedicated  
to the PEOPLE of TSU  
for the 2007-2008 school year



True  
Leadership



Very  
Passionate



Very  
Outgoing





# What We Think

## *The Meter* endorses Reese, Floyd and Aikins

After conducting a series of interviews with the candidates running for SGA president, vice president and Miss TSU, *The Meter* has chosen to endorse Patrick Walker Reese, Ashley Floyd and Ashlee Aikins.

Unfortunately, this year arguably the top position of SGA will be pursued by an uncontested candidate.

While this is a disappointing circumstance, Reese is by no means a disappointing candidate.

We were pleased to find that Reese was not excited by the concept of running unopposed.

However, despite this fact, he said that he feels it was his purpose to serve as SGA president.

One strong point Reese made was the responsibility to reach out to freshman and help them to understand the great legacy of TSU with the implementation of freshman week.

He additionally presented interesting ideas of restructuring the SGA to encour-

age higher standards of responsibility and accountability.

At the same time he said that he wanted to increase the visibility and influence of the SGA by enforcing rules and contracts that members will sign.

His pledge to go to sleep tired every day was his dislike for not using influence in a positive way and was testament to his potential for leadership.

We were impressed by Charnika Garrison and Warren Burke presenting concrete and feasible goals for their candidacy of SGA vice president.

Ultimately, however, we were won over by Floyd's plans to make responsibility and accountability key points of her platform.

We were also encouraged by her statement that she would be involved in SGA as an officer or as an active student.

Floyd stressed the specific need to make SGA a more business oriented entity that follows parliamentary procedure

in addition to holding members of the SGA accountable.

We were impressed by her plans to begin implementation of her platform immediately as in her current position as Speaker of the House rather than waiting to be elected.

Floyd also displayed an ability to see varying sides of multiple issues and showed that she would be motivated by facts, logic and the best interests of the students.

Overall, Floyd showed an understanding of the issues facing SGA and the role of the office of the vice president in rectifying them.

Our choice for endorsement for Miss TSU proved to be one of the most difficult choices many staffers had faced.

Each candidate for Miss TSU presented herself as professional and articulated her view of the responsibilities of the position as well.

Carol Wesson's poise was impressive, Cecilia Friday's honesty was

refreshing and Amanda Harris and Dania Lofton both presented admirable plans for the crown of Miss TSU.

The decision of who to endorse was so difficult it took two days of deliberation before a final decision was made.

Ultimately, the endorsement went to Ashlee Aikins.

Akins presented her plans for the crown as a tool for reaching out to the student body and bringing them into the embrace of TSU.

Her plans to reach out to freshman and educate them about the history of TSU to instill an appreciation of TSU from day one were noble goals.

Like Floyd, Aikins also said that regardless if she wins or not she will do her best to try to implement her platform and help the elected Miss TSU.

Aikins also presented herself as an approachable and genuine candidate who would be able to relate to both the student body and administrators.

## Who's Probate is it Anyway?

By Orterius Burnett





# Students should protest board denial



**Cara Anthony**  
Editor in Chief

## FROM WHERE I SIT

I was highly disturbed when I learned that TSU's Freedom Riders were not going to receive their degrees. The Tennessee Board of Regents has made an outlandish decision.

TSU students should not let this unfair ruling go unprotested, especially considering the fact that the freedom riders actions helped us to enjoy some of the liberties we have today.

Freedom riders participated in the civil rights movement by taking bus trips to segregated areas across the south. In

1961 thirteen students from TSU were expelled for participating in the freedom rides.

The TBR decided, however, that fighting for basic civil rights was not reason enough to be given pardon.

Voting members blame the decision on current policy regarding honorary degrees. Apparently, they are only allowed to give two honorary degrees per year per institution.

I believe that this policy should be revised, and not solely in order to accommodate the Freedom Riders. A revision in the policy would allow degrees to be appropriately awarded when the time calls for such an honor. As it stands, the honorary degree policy appears to be stifling.

In rare occasions such as that of the Freedom Riders, the ability to make exceptions should exist. Anybody affect-

ed by the civil rights movement—and this definitely includes TSU students, alumni, faculty, and staff—should take this poor decision to heart.

There has to be a more honorable solution. Imagine the slap in the face, learning that you were denied a degree for standing up for rights of all mankind.

We should all want to make our voices heard concerning this matter.

The Freedom Riders, along with everyone else that protested during the civil rights movement, fought for the rights of all people.

I absolutely hate it when the movement is portrayed as a mere black and white issue; it was much more. It defended the rights of people, regardless of races, culture, or social standing.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had a dream that one day, all people would have respect and rights. On the anniversary of

his assassination, April 4, five of the freedom riders appeared on campus, to attend the Great Debate. During the event they were recognized for their roles in making his dream a reality.

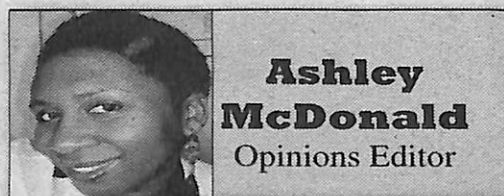
Last week, a letter to the editor encouraged the Class of 2008 to support the Freedom Riders' campaign by placing their names on the top of their mortarboards, to symbolize the Freedom Riders graduating along with them. I feel as if this is a grand idea; three fellow staffers of The Meter may join in these efforts.

For those of you not graduating, the task is not dead. In honor and defense of these activists, I challenge each of you to become Freedom Writers.

The letter writing, emails, phone calls, and petitions should begin immediately.

History is made in the present. I urge you to become a part of it. •

# Greatness, leadership comes with great responsibility



**Ashley McDonald**  
Opinions Editor

## MY HUMBLE OPINION

With Student Election Commission Week upon us, several individuals on campus are competing all week for some of TSU's most prestigious leadership positions.

Once elected, these individuals will be held to higher standards than the average student. They will be the representation of TSU.

When one achieves a level of greatness and holds a position that others look favorably upon, that individual has an obligation to that position and to the people that respect that position.

He or she has to make the position look good.

If bringing negative attention to a position with a high status, be aware that scrutiny and consequences may follow.

Let's look at some examples.

Extramarital affairs are not a new phenomenon. Men and women cheat on their spouses on a daily basis.

While such practices are frowned upon, no one is affected outside of the people that are directly involved, and there is no need to alert the media when it occurs.

However, when former U.S. President William Jefferson Clinton engaged in extramarital sexual activity with Monica Lewinsky, the entire world knew about it because of the position that he held.

Because he was the leader of what is arguably the most powerful country in the world, he was heavily scrutinized, and later impeached, for engaging in activities that the every day man would be overlooked for.

It may not seem fair, but it is the way of the world.

Paul Reubens, more familiarly known as Pee Wee Herman, also felt the backlash of his unfavorable behavior.

On July 26, 1991, he was caught masturbating publicly in an adult theater.

Since Herman's key audience was composed of children, this behavior is not a good example for those that look at him as a role model.

Subsequently, his show, which has been airing in syndication on CBS, was dropped from the programming lineup.

More recently, former New York governor Eliot Spitzer resigned after being tied to a prostitution and money laundering ring.

Even celebrities like Paris Hilton and Britney Spears have been exploited for recording a sex tape and dysfunctional behavior respectively.

Once the masses are aware of one's existence, every move made is subject to examination.

Image is important because it is all that one has.

An individual can be the best person on the planet, but in the public light, negative offenses are highlighted before positive accomplishments.

Too much work goes into getting to the top. Why spoil it with sub-par behavior?

When one is recognized as being the best at something, he or she must live up to it.

It makes no sense to claw to the top and then stop doing the work.

Maintaining a position is not based on what was done in the past, but by continuing to do great things and constantly striving to do more.

According to Luke 12:48 (NKJV), "For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more."

As we go into this week of free food, campaign posters, performances and handshakes, the candidates should remember what they are competing for.

Those that win their respective races will represent every student at this great institution.

Because of this, it is the student body's responsibility to hold these individuals to the standard for which it wants TSU to be viewed.

It will be these future leaders' responsibilities to rise above the standard. •

# WWW.TSUMETER.COM



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

It is unfortunate that TSU's Governing Board decided to join the racist past instead of embracing a non-racist future.

The best way for TSU's students to honor the expelled Freedom Riders is to paint all 14 of their names on top of each student's mortar board at graduation excercises, and hold it above your heads when you walk off the stage.

This way, the non-violent Freedom Riders of the 1960's can be honored by, and graduate with, the class of 2008, who can stand in solidarity with those who stood up to be counted, when standing up often earned a fist, a club, a bullet or a rope.

Hopefully, this will cause the Board of Regents to reconsider their racist decision.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randall Norris, Ph.D.

Professor,

American Culture Studies

Sauk Valley Community College

Dear Editor,

My name is Mathew Portell and I am a graduate student at TSU, Metro Nashville Public Schools teacher, and the founder of the non-profit organization, Ride for Reading.

I developed the organization to promote literacy through the distribution of books to children from low income households.

I was hoping there would be a place in *The Meter* to inform fellow TSU students about my organization. You can find out more information about it at [www.rideforreading.org](http://www.rideforreading.org).

I have currently received assistance from several students already, and I have appreciated it. If there is anything you can do to help my organization grow I would appreciate it.

Partners in education,

Mathew Portell

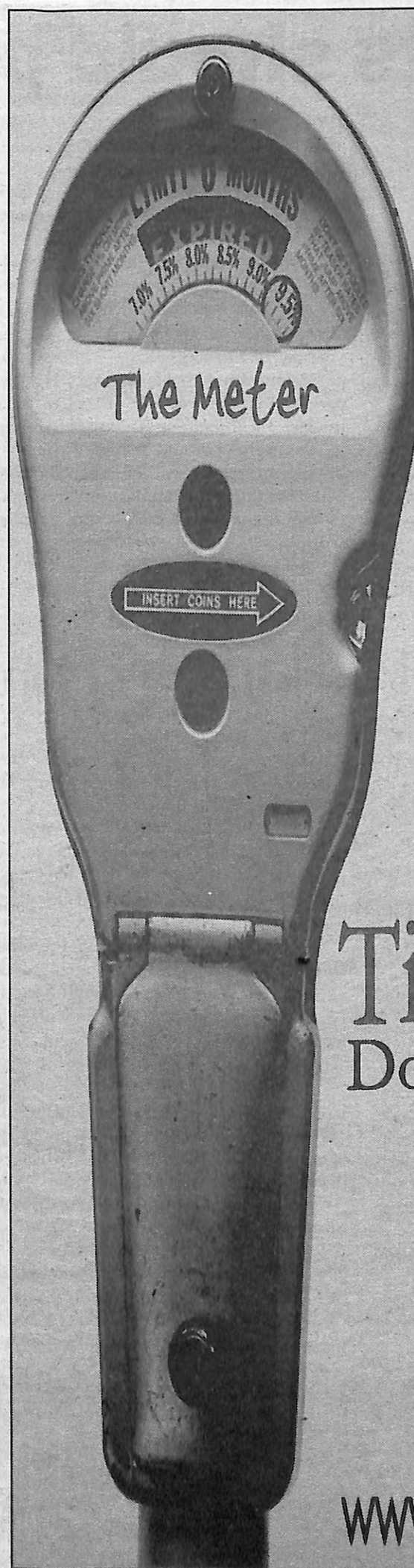
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# Candidates use catchy platforms

Continued from page 1

One candidate in particular, Charmin Bates, a chemistry and electrical engineering major from Joliet, Ill., spoke on her desire to enact change on campus that would positively impact students, including parking and dining facility services.

"We have a cha-cha-chance to make a lasting cha-cha-change," chanted Bates.

Vice presidential candidate Ashley Floyd, a junior speech communications major from Memphis, announced that TSU was under construction.

She seeks to re-establish the lines of communication between students, student government and university officials, but did not delude the audience of the arduousness of the task. She did, however, offer solutions in her allotted two minutes.

"This is not going to be an easy process," Floyd said. "It will require accountability."

One of her opponents, Warren Burke, a junior accounting major from Memphis, had a strong opening statement, but was unable to deliver his platform. He violated a rule of the convention stating that candidates may not say the word "vote."

The third candidate for vice president, Charnika Garrison, a junior speech pathology and audiology major from Memphis, proclaimed, "This is the

movement."

Garrison gave the results of a survey she administered to students as junior class president.

She determined that 75 percent of students did not love TSU, and 75 percent of those students did not want their children to attend TSU—and then told attendees that this had to change.

Patrick Walker-Reese, a junior history education major from Nashville, was the sole nominee for SGA president and will be running unopposed. This did not stop him from introducing his "I Am TSU" platform, or sharing his love and passion for the University.

"If I had ten minutes to address the world, what would I say?" Walker-Reese questioned. "If ever given the opportunity, spend the time on what you love, and don't waste a second on anything else. I love Tennessee State University. Excuse me—I am Tennessee State University."

The Miss TSU candidates brought much energy to the forum.

Ceceilia Friday, a junior accounting major from Detroit, introduced her platform of queenly excellence and explained the role of Miss TSU.

"Miss Tennessee State University is not only the official spokesperson of the University, but is a shining example of the very best our school has to offer," Friday said. "She should exude grace, class, sophistication, and queenly excellence at all times."

Amanda Harris, a junior speech

pathology and audiology major from Memphis, introduced herself as reliable and accessible, and wanting to bring the office of Miss TSU from the office to our doorsteps.

Ashlee "The Energizer" Akins, a junior speech pathology and audiology major from Jackson, Tenn., was moved to tears during her nomination.

Dania Lofton, a junior English and Spanish double-major from Atlanta, introduced herself in Spanish and her platform's three focuses: providing scholarships for students, encouraging civic engagement through scholarships, and continuing and carrying on the R.E.I.G.N. Supreme program created by current Miss TSU, Orna Jones.

Carroll Wesson, a junior psychology major from Jackson, Tenn., told attendees to stay tuned to the CW network during SEC Week.

She expressed her passion for the University, and vowed that, if elected, she would epitomize excellence and give back to TSU what it has given to her.

"To me, there is no greater quest or charge than representing TSU," Wesson said.

Following the SGA nominations, class officers were nominated.

SEC Week will feature numerous campaign activities by the candidates.

Voting is scheduled to take place on Thursday and Friday of this week, April 10-11, in the FPCC.

## Committee members split on awarding degrees

Continued from page 1

back to school when I was let out of jail and I went to register for summer school because I knew I had hours that I needed to complete. From that point, I was expelled, but I was never told why."

Five of the members who sat on the deciding governing board voted for the Freedom Riders to receive their degrees.

"They gave up a lot to do what they did. It is important that they be recognized," said Paul Montgomery, a member of the board who voted yes.

Members of the board who voted no said they respect the sacrifice of the Freedom Riders but the TBR's rules limit the number of honorary degrees that can be given.

"Voting the way that I did was no way to demean the Freedom Riders," said Jonas Kisber. "I admire them and what they did. However, the rule is two degrees per school per year."

A special event is now being prepared for the Freedom Riders so that they may be recognized.

"We are forming a committee under the direction of Provost Robert Hampton," said Johnson. "I anticipate that we can do a lot of planning, but not much in the way of an actual event in the spring because we are so close to the end of the academic year."

The final decision of the resolution in the awarding of the honorary degrees stated, "It is unquestionable and unequivocal that we desire to honor the TSU students who became known as the Freedom Riders."

"We appoint TSU President Dr. Melvin Johnson to lead and organize a celebration, recognition and honor where this state, the Board of Regents and the Tennessee State University community can honor all of the students who became known as the Freedom Riders and preclude the necessity that this board has to waive its policy 2:06:00:00," the resolution stated.

On Friday, April 4, four of the 14 Freedom Riders were honored at the 23 annual Great Debate hosted by the Great Debate Honor Society and the Nashville Chapter of the TSU Alumni Association.

"I think that it is tragic for them not be honored," said Patrick Walker-Reese, a junior history education major from Nashville said. "Especially for so much they did. I hope that TSU can find some way to honor them."

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**TRIPLE PLAY  
SATURDAY**

**APRIL 12**

**BOSTON-MOON  
Track Meet - 10AM**

*Lady Tigers*  
vs.  
*Austin Peay*  
(Softball) 12N

**TSU YARD SALE  
(HALE STADIUM)  
12NOON**

**BLUE-WHITE  
SPRING FOOTBALL  
GAME - 2PM**







**M. Antonio  
Silas**  
Business & Technology  
Editor

## MONEY BYTES

# SPEND YOUR TAX REFUNDS WISELY

U.S. President George W. Bush and members of Congress recently signed the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008. In theory, the act provides monetary stimulus payments to households all over the U.S.

Over 130 million American households will be entitled to a payment of up to \$600 or \$1,200 if filing a joint return, plus additional amounts for each qualifying child. The payments have been scheduled to begin during May of this year.

While it may seem like people would have to do extra outside of just filing their taxes, this is not the case. After 2007 taxes are filed, the IRS will determine eligibility and figure the amount based on the information given.

The government essentially wants everyone that receives this payment to go out and purchase electronics and other high-end items, thus stimulating the economy.

While it may seem smart, it is ironic the government didn't take into account that millions of Americans are in debt and that that economic stimulus payment will go towards knocking off that debt.

The payment is directed more towards the middle class, seeing how people that earn over \$75,000 (or \$150,000 jointly) will not receive such a bonus. If the government wants the economy to improve, randomly throwing out money and putting the country further into debt isn't the best way to do so.

Empowering Americans economically by teaching more about the pitfalls of debt may be the first step.

The government is spending billions of dollars so that American's will go give money to businesses. While this might stimulate the economy slightly, is it really helpful to Americans?

There's really no point in spending \$600 on a HDTV if you don't have a living room to put it in.\*

# Tax-filing ignorance hurts students' aid

**By Bianca Braggs**  
Contributing Reporter

Having limited knowledge about the tax-filing process jeopardizes students' refunds and financial aid, according to a local tax preparer.

Since taxes must be filed in order to complete FAFSA forms for the next semester.

Delores Williams Florence said she sees improvement in students' understanding of what they need to do in terms of filing taxes by April 15.

"This year I can tell many stu-

dents are learning about taxes during college," said Florence, a senior tax advisor with tax preparer H&R Block. "I have seen a great number of students this year. Students should simply ask someone about taxes if they don't know."

H&R Block is just one of the companies with a special plan for students. They offer a \$29 student rate and \$20 family discount.

"All students need to bring are their W2s, tuition statements, photo ID, social security card and we do except student IDs as well," Florence said.

Jonathan Perry, a junior business major from Houston, said, "I never file my taxes, I just simply mail my W2s to my mom."

Florence said some students don't understand tax law regarding tuition, wrongly thinking they can claim tuition on their taxes even if their parents are claiming them as dependents or if they use their parent's income information on FAFSA.

"I think that if I understood how filing taxes worked, I wouldn't blow it off as much, said Kiana Cole, a sophomore business major from Memphis. •

For students looking to file taxes, these 6 tips from [bankrate.com](https://www.bankrate.com/taxes/) could be very helpful:

**File.** Regardless of how much money was made last year, file. If any money was withheld from checks, there may be some coming back.

**Start Early Even if W-2s haven't been received, the final pay stub will have the pertinent tax information, such as income and how much was withheld.**

Be prepared to take a weekend. Filling out forms won't take that long, a weekend is enough time for double checking the numbers before mailing that return.

Practice on paper. Even if filing electronically, many students find it's more efficient to fill out the paper forms and work out the bugs before going online to file.

Watch income. If relying on need-based grants or loans, keep an eye on income throughout the year. It's smart to leverage funds so one can qualify for every tax advantage.

Be careful with work-study arrangements. These programs are taxable. Many schools issue their students checks and take the proper withholdings.

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Mr. Muter will help to give order to Government, says it has to control the activities of "Blackout Citizens."

**The Future** - Mr. Muter, however, has nothing to mention particularly about and he refers the activities of the Government to himself.

FURNITURE, DECORATION	
CHARLES LEBLANC	Chas.
EDWARD STEVENSON	EDWARD STEVENSON
GILBERT & ROSE	LAMBERT H. HARRIS
GEORGE L. LEBLANC	

The Motor, another motion picture, "The Manners of Modern Civilization," was shown the history of modern journalism, effort and to attract the eyes of the western reader.

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PATRICK

WALKER-REESE

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I AM TSU



SGA PRESIDENT



ASHLEY

FLOYD

PLATFORM:  
Rebuilding SGA and TSU



SGA VICE PRESIDENT



WARREN

BURKE

PLATFORM: S.T.A.R.  
Students Taking a Right



SGA VICE PRESIDENT

CHARNIKA

GARRISON

PLATFORM:  
Political movement



SGA VICE PRESIDENT

VOTING BEGINS THURSDAY, APRIL 10  
AVON WILLIAMS CAMPUS FROM 4:30 - 8:30 P.M.  
VOTING BEGINS FRIDAY, APRIL 11  
FPCC ATRIUM FROM 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.



ASHLEE

AKINS

PLATFORM: Rhythm  
of a Big Blue Nation

MISSTSU



CECEILA

FRIDAY

PLATFORM: Establishing  
Queenly Excellence

MISSTSU

AMANDA

HARRIS

PLATFORM:  
The Sweet Escape

MISSTSU

DANIA

LOFTON

PLATFORM:  
Is it in You?

MISSTSU

CARROLL

WESSON

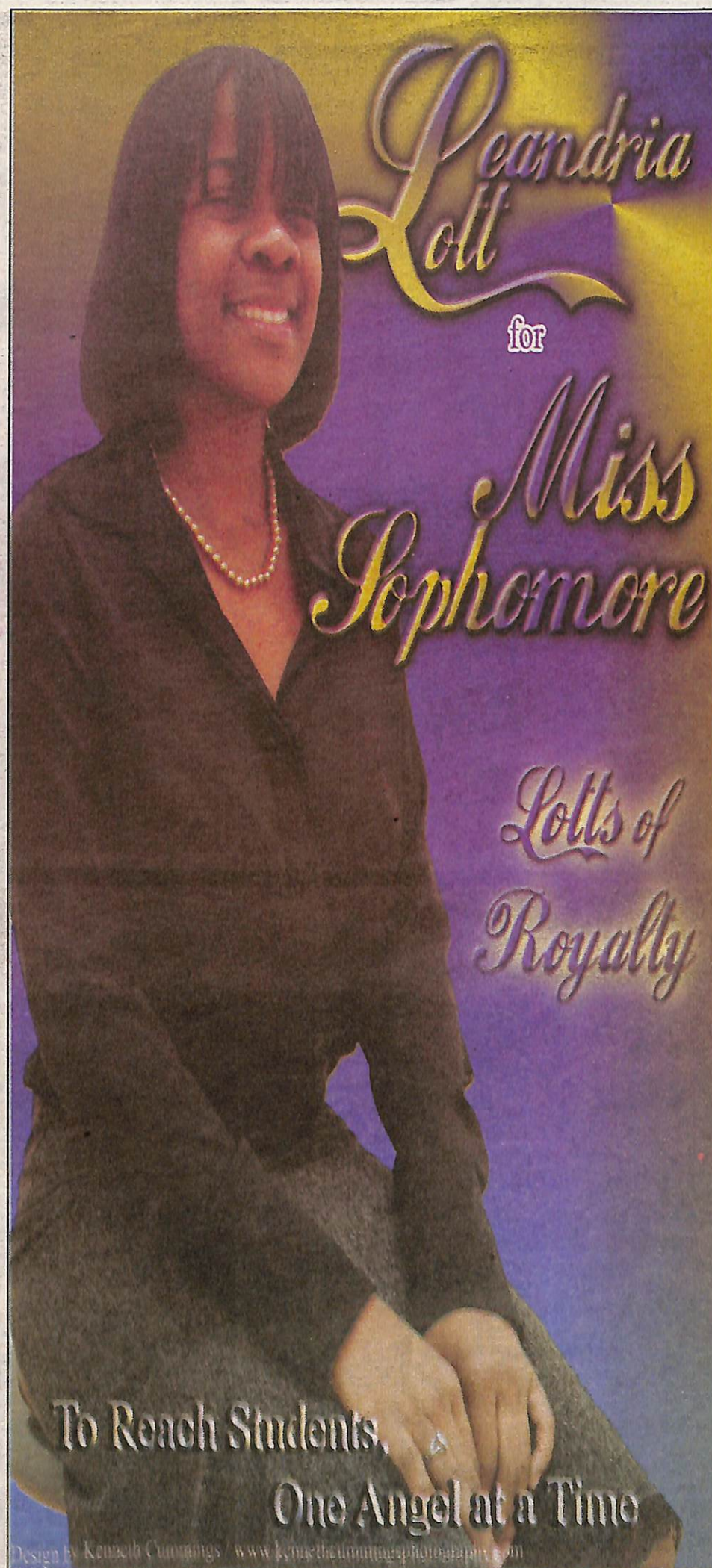
PLATFORM: Beauty  
Beyond the Crown

MISSTSU



A close-up portrait of Amanda Harris, a young Black woman with long, dark, wavy hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark top. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with greenery.

AMANDA HARRIS  
MISS, TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
2008-2009

A portrait of Leandria Lott, a young Black woman with short, dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark, long-sleeved top and a pearl necklace. The background is a gradient of purple and blue.

*Leandria Lott*  
for  
*Miss Sophomore*  
*Lotts of Royalty*

To Reach Students,  
One Angel at a Time

Design by Kenneth Cummings / [www.kennethcummingsphotography.com](http://www.kennethcummingsphotography.com)



## TIGRE

By David Houston



## Tigerville

By Orterrius Burnett





# The Movement

**Charnika Garrison  
for  
SGA Vice President**



## THE MOVEMENT

**CHARNIKA THE MOVEMENT GARRISON**

**Sunday, April 6, 2008  
Boot Camp Begins Dorm Runs!**

**Monday, April 7, 2008 Bringing Back the Blue  
and White to TSU/ Fiesta Monday**

**Breakfast @ 8 am Wilson Hall  
3 on 3 Basketball Tournament/ Blue and White  
Rally 6:00 pm The courts**

**Tuesday, April 8, 2008  
The Major Move**

**Breakfast @ 8am Hale Hall  
Major Move Rhythm Kitchen @ 10pm  
1 dollar under 21, all night free if 21 and older**

## THE MOVEMENT

**Wednesday April 9, 2008  
Welcome to the Mess Hall**

**Breakfast @ 8 am Wilson Hall  
Barbeque Southwest (Old) Courtyard 12:00 pm  
Ms. TSU Pageant**

**Thursday/Friday  
ITS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A MOVE**

## THE MOVEMENT



# THE METER ARTS CULTURE

Monday, April 7, 2008

Volume 58 Issue 34



**Kaila  
Thompson**  
Staff Columnist

## HEALTH MATTERS

### GETTING HEALTHY, FIT FOR SUMMER

The spring semester is quickly coming to a close and many students are looking forward to summer plans. Whether vacationing, going home, or staying for summer school, spring dieting and exercise can bring the "sexy back" just in time for hot summer weather.

Although there are many different diets to partake in, be cautious of advertising appeals that make weight loss seem easy. The challenge in losing weight is oftentimes not losing weight; rather, it is creating long term health goals, and making a lifestyle change that includes regular exercise.

College students are renowned for following inconsistent schedules. The ever-changing daily routine can have a big impact on eating habits and workout time.

One fallacy of people seeking to lose weight is omitting breakfast. Many students reluctantly do not eat breakfast, which has consistently been labeled the most important meal of the day. According to MedicineNet.com, not eating a good, healthy breakfast is "like putting the number one tool that burns the fat in a time out." Failing to eat slows down metabolism and leads to weight gain.

Where morning meals fire up the metabolism, well-planned snacks feed the flames. The key, though, is well-planned. Many students turn to the vending machine for snacking solutions, but it's usually healthier to plan and prepare portable healthy snacks.

"I pack boxes of raisins, sliced apples, or trail mix before leaving the house to avoid the temptation of eating from the vending machines," said Sherry White, a senior education major from Washington, D.C. "Students take their health for granted because they cannot see the long term damage poor food choices has on their

See "Get" on page 20

## Student pursues deejay dreams

By DeShanee Miner  
Senior Staff Reporter

Everyday people see someone doing something that looks fun and creative and think, "I can do that." Not many people actually go out and do it, though.

Charles Burnett did. His goal was to become a deejay.

"If you are attempting to get your name out there and out there quickly," said Burnett, a senior business major from Memphis. "I am a walking testimony."

Last November, Burnett said he decided he wanted to become a deejay and mix music after he saw his mentors Antonio "Big Boy AJ" Benton and Cordarius "Crisis" Freeman working.

He said he was already a fan of making mixes for other people, so he decided he may as well get paid for it.

After getting the \$1500 he needed for start-up, he started purchasing the equipment he needed.

Burnett learned how to hook up the equipment from DJ Crisis and learned more about the music from Big Boy AJ.

See "Burnett" on page 20



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Charles "DJ Wheezy" Burnett is living his dreams of deejaying.

## Rapper T.I. pleads guilty to weapons charges



**Gregory  
Brand Jr.**  
Arts &  
Culture Editor

### EAR TO THE STREET

*This bi-monthly 'for entertainment only' column that gives the dish and up-to-date information on celebrities may pique the interest of TSU students. Featuring hot info on everyone that's anyone, prepare to get your laugh on because off the record, it's info that is hot in the streets.*

On March 27, Clifford "T.I." Harris pleaded guilty to several of his federal weapons charges. If convicted of the charges, T.I. faces up to a year in prison.

The Atlanta-based artist was originally arrested last October for having a small army's supply of weapons, including unlicensed machine guns and silencers (who was he gonna murder?).

He was taken into custody just hours before the BET awards show that same evening.

While sentencing seems to be an inevitable consequence of his possessions, he could end up serving his sentence behind bars, performing an enormous

amount of community service, or paying an enormous fine. In some twist of fate, he could end up doing a combination of them all.

This couldn't have come at a worse time for hip-hop lovers. With music sales continuing to wane, T.I. was one of the last remaining bright spots on the scene.

### Remy Ma to get married in the slammer

The Grammy-nominated rapper, Reminisce Smith (also known as Remy Ma), was convicted of three charges on March 27 and now faces up to 25 years

See "Remy" on page 16



## Remy and fiancée Papoose to marry soon

Continued from page 15

in prison.

According to Reuters News Service, she was led out of the courtroom in handcuffs and will remain behind bars until her sentencing in April.

Smith's sentencing stems from an altercation with a former friend that led to the shooting of that former friend.

The rapper was found guilty of assault, weapons possession and coercion for the shooting the woman in the abdomen and stealing \$3000 from her purse.

Despite her approaching sentence, the rapper still plans to marry her fiancé and fellow emcee, Papoose. The two of them are allegedly planning to marry on Rikers Island.

## Corrine Bailey Rae mourns the loss of her husband

British-born soul star Corrine Bailey Rae recently said her last goodbye to her late husband, Jason Rae, on April 3.

While it is suspected that the cause of Rae's death is drug-related, toxicology reports have yet to confirm or deny the allegations.

According to E! Online, 100 mourners joined the newly widowed singer at her husband's ceremony. Our condolences go out to her.

## Younger Levert brother dies

Sean Levert, the brother and former band mate of recently deceased singer Gerald Levert has succumbed at age 39. Levert, one-third of the 1980s R&B group LeVert, died while in serving a jail term.

Levert was in prison after failure to pay child support and fell ill during the sentence. Though no conclusive details surrounding his death have been released, a full autopsy has been planned. Our condolences go out to the Levert family.

## Diddy recovers from a little West Coast slander

The Los Angeles Times is licking its wounds after admitting their role in printing false evidence linking Sean 'Diddy' Combs to the death of hip-hop legend Tupac Shakur. The article, printed March 17, implied that Diddy was involved in the shooting that eventually ended Shakur's life.

FBI files along with testimonies were the link used to fuel the story. All of this information, which dates back to 1994, was later proven to be false, once inconsistencies in the information began to surface.

Though his name took a serious brow-beating as a result of the accusations and insinuations, Diddy was never arrested and was full exonerated once the LA Times release a retraction. I'll bet Diddy is saying, "Take that, take that, take that."

Check us out next time for more hot info. And remember, if it's off the record, we'll keep you posted.\*

# THE METER NEWSPAPER EDITOR

## for the 2008-2009 School Year

Do you have demonstrated leadership skills, ability to meet deadlines and skills in writing, layout and editing?  
Have you worked on a newspaper for at least one year?

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Nashville, TN 37209

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E-mail all materials to [gjohnson@tnstate.edu](mailto:gjohnson@tnstate.edu) or

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**Kean Hall Gymnasium 3PM-7PM**

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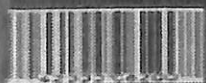
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Spring Edition 2008

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# The Rise of Natural Hair



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

By Ashley McDonald  
Opinions Editor

Each morning at the start of the day, two women prepare to perform their daily beauty rituals.

One woman reaches in her drawer and pulls out her flat iron to smooth out her chemically-straightened tresses. The smell of oil and burning hair rises to the ceiling. Once done straightening, a cloud of oil sheen surrounds her head. The fog clears and after 30 minutes in the mirror, her hair is finally presentable.

Just down the street, the other woman stares into her bathroom mirror. She does not have a bone straight mane resting on her head. Instead she reaches for her afro pick, detangles her tight coils, applies some natural oils to her kinky mane, ties her headband securely and marvels in the beauty of her natural texture.

When it comes to African-American women, hair can be a touchy subject. Some women cling tightly to the implications that surround having long silky hair,

while other women choose to display what nature placed on their heads.

Black women have long tried to "correct" the natural texture of their hair by applying chemicals to permanently straighten their hair. A change in recent style has created a different breed of woman. Whether you call it nappy, kinky or textured, natural hair is on the rise amongst African Americans.

"College life in general affects it," said bookstore manager Steve Treece about one's perception of natural hair. "It's more than just hair."

"A lot of times when people decide to go natural, they also make other life changes," Treece continued. "So going natural could be a part of a lifestyle change."

Treece listed some changes he has seen, including giving up red meat and becoming vegetarian. Those that become natural tend to make healthier more natural choices in other areas of life.

The bookstore recently began carrying a line of beauty products that 'natural

heads' have been buzzing about.

For 15 years, Carol's Daughter has provided a natural line of products for the hair and body. Some students look at the price tags on the bottles that range from approximately \$10 to \$30 and are taken aback at the higher price, but Treece believes that you get what you pay for.

"Those that are familiar with the product understand the price point," Treece said. "This really is a high quality product and *Carol's Daughter* is intentional about their display and marketing. We're fortunate to form this relationship with the company."

Treece said he remembers a day when students were ridiculed for going natural and quality products like *Carol's Daughter* were not available. Now he said he believes that natural hair is making its move into the mainstream.

"With the right products and the right beautician, natural hair is more manageable," Treece said.

While some have successfully gone natural, others have started the journey

only to return to the comfort of a relaxer.

Brandy Rogers, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Clarksville Tenn., has selected the natural option two times. She first decided to go natural during her high school senior year.

"I was looking through some pictures and I noticed how bad my hair looked," Rogers said about her relaxed hair. "I like the look of my natural hair when I was a child and I wanted that look again."

Rogers said she opted to relax her hair for her high school graduation at her grandmother's request. After six months, Rogers cut her relaxed hair off again and returned to her natural roots.

"My grandmother and my aunt both died of cancer," Rogers said. "They were beautiful women with and without their hair."

Students like Tai Clark feel it's something that you have to grow into.

"It's something that comes with time," said Clark, a freshman biology major from Nashville. "I haven't matured

Continued on next page



**Continued from page 18**

enough yet. I may consider it one day."

Treece agrees and believes that choosing to wear your natural hair is not just about getting rid of the chemicals. It's about an awareness of self. Self-confidence is crucial.

"Follow your heart," Rogers said, advising others that want to make the transition. "No one but you has control. If you think that you are confident enough to do it then do it."

Typically, when we think of going natural or anything concerning hair, we think of women. But men are also making the choice to show their roots.

Men typically keep their hair cut into shorter styles. With the endless array of braided styles and the popularity of locks, men are saying no to the clippers.

Justin Jenkins, a freshman psychology major from Atlanta, and Corterrius Pittman, a freshman biology major from Memphis, said they have been growing their shoulder-length and beyond hair for five years now.

Jenkins wears his hair in locks that extend down his back while Pittman's shoulder-length hair is styled in two strand twists and flat twists.

"I didn't like haircuts," Jenkins said. "It cost too much money."

Pittman also admitted that he wasn't a fan of the clippers.

Blacks have been pinned with several negative stereotypes. Natural hairstyles are no different, especially when it comes to black men. In the 1960s and 1970s, natural hair and the afro in particular were almost synonymous with the black pride movement. The afro became a sign of black beauty. With the racial tension inherent to the era, mainstream America viewed the afro in a negative light and attached unfavorable connotations to the natural style.

"People think that I am unintelligent," Pittman said. "But once I open my mouth they see that I am very intelligent. People sometimes think that I am in a gang, but you can't judge a book by its cover."

Locks also carry negative stereotypes. Though locks date back to ancient Egypt, they have become almost synonymous with Rastafarianism. Stereotypes associated with the "Rastas" include smoking marijuana and militant attitudes.

Jenkins said that because of his choice to wear locks, he has been the victim of these stereotypes.

"People think that I smoke weed and listen to Bob Marley," Jenkins said.

In college, especially at historically black institutions, the choice to be natural is not necessarily an issue.

"People don't think twice about it," said Gabrielle Jackson, a junior psychology major from Mobile, Ala.

But when students leave college and enter the workforce, employers may not see the beauty of natural hair. Lora J. Springer, the assistant director of the Career Development Center, said that natural hair could be an issue.

"It depends on the culture of the organization," Springer said. More conservative companies may frown on natural hair because of the stereotypes that surround it.

According to Springer, some companies may begin to crack down on smaller offenses in order to weed out a person because of their choice of hairstyle. A company cannot legally fire a person based on their hair alone.

But if a company is more conservative, naturals must make sure that they do not give their employers other ammunition to use against them. Many employers will not be that strict, but it pays to know what you are dealing with in advance.

Springer suggests checking a company's website for photos or paying a visit to the company to see how the company visually represents itself by the people that are employed. It also pays to know the company's policies regarding grooming and appearance.

"As long as the hair is well-groomed, it should be acceptable, but don't be surprised if you don't get the job," advised Springer about ultra-conservative companies.

Apparently, conservative America is not the only nation that frowns on natural styles.

In Barbados, where 90% of the population is black, Senator Damien Griffin has recently been ridiculed for wearing his neatly groomed cornrows while he appeared in parliament.

A career in politics does provide a conservative environment, and the opinions on his choice of hairstyle have been scattered. But Griffin has expressed that he will not be cutting his hair.

For anyone that is thinking about transitioning from the relaxer into the realm of napturality, there are several resources available. Motowngirl.com is one of the leading Web sites for those seeking insight into the realm of the au naturale.

Motowngirl.com was started when Alisha Cole, owner and webmistress, began documenting the progress of her own journey from relaxed to natural.

"At the time, there were no other sites on the web that dealt with natural hair," said Cole, who started the site in 2000. "As time went on, I would get the same type of questions for different people."

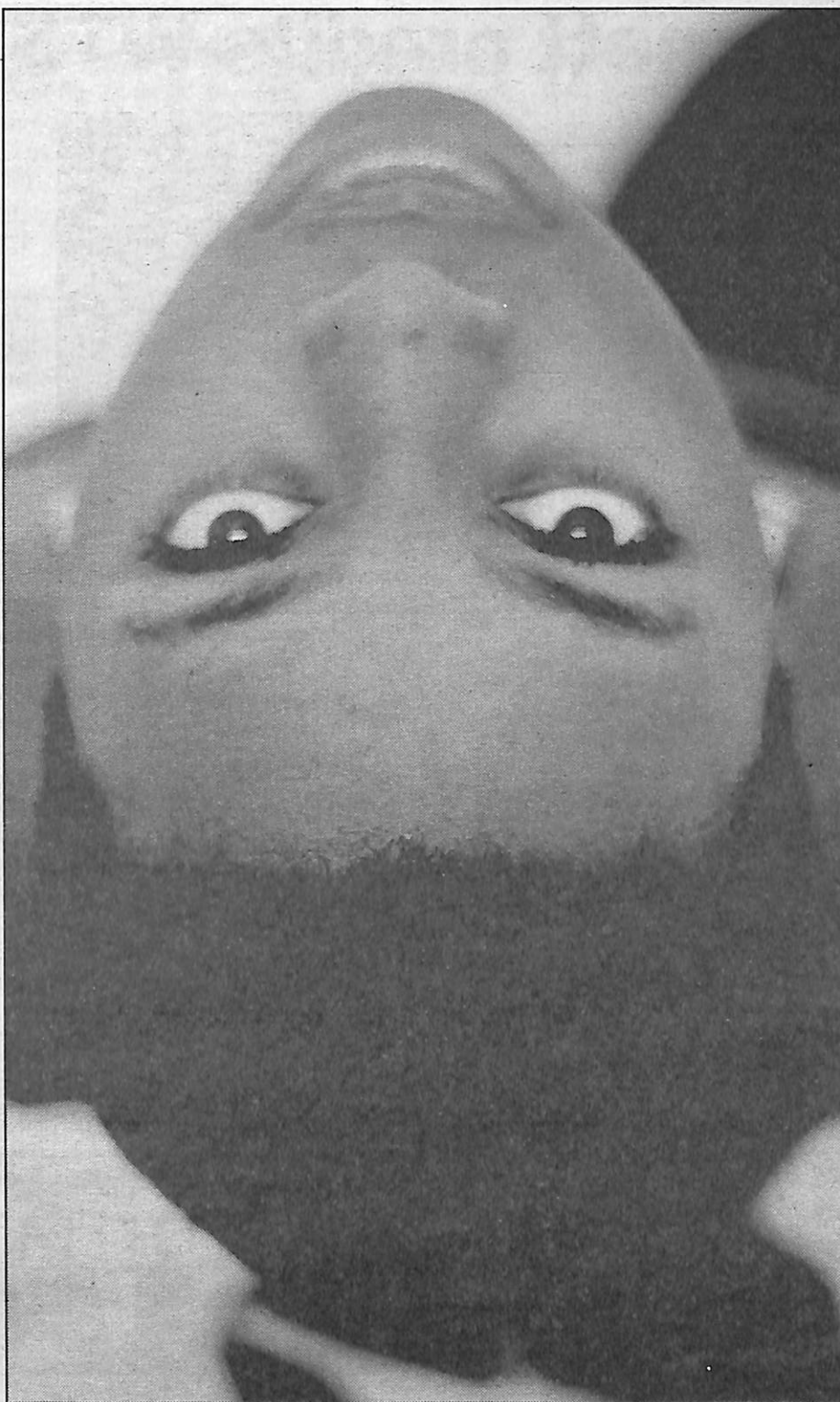


PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

"So instead of typing the same question over and over again, I would create new sections of my site," Cole continued. It just kept growing, and it continues to grow."

Cole's own transition took place when she was in college and her parents stopped giving her money to continue what used to be her biweekly visits to the salon. She said she attempted to go natural twice, but was not able to succeed until she began documenting her journey via her Web site. After 14 months, her transition was complete.

Currently, Motowngirl.com has approximately 55,000 unique visitors and

1.4 million page views each month.

"I do very well with my site combining advertising, affiliate programs, consultations, t-shirt sales and donations," Cole said.

The visibility of textured heads is increasing and is quickly gaining acceptance in the mainstream. Celebrities like Jill Scott, Erykah Badu, and India.Arie have helped to put natural hair in the spotlight.

Whether you have never considered it, thought about it, are in the process of transitioning, or rocking your natural naps, one cannot deny the striking presence of natural hair.



# Burnett credits WTST deejay

Continued from page 15

But the skills had to be self-taught. "You won't learn how to mix until you do it on your own," Burnett said.

DJ Weezy's first gig was in January, assisting Big Boy AJ at BarCar before classes were back in session.

"For the little time I worked with him," said Benton, a senior speech communications major from Atlanta, "he was cool and eager to learn."

Burnett admits he did mess up, but had fun during the process and was anxious to strike out on his own. His first solo gig was for Fisk University.

"He was so easy to work with," said Angel Thomas, Fisk University's freshman class president and a music business major from Nashville.

As a matter of fact, Burnett has come to be known as "The Freshman's DJ" at Fisk because he has worked at most of the freshman events. The class officers said this was because of his reasonable prices.

Burnett admitted that entrepreneurship has presented challenges, the biggest of them being time management. Burnett said he often refers other deejays to jobs when he is unable to work



PHOTO BY KENNETH CUMMINGS

Charles "DJ Weezy" Burnett is making a name in Nashville.

at events.

"The biggest problem has been time management," said Burnett. "Sometimes it's really hard to say no to people. There's not a lot of hip hop deejays in Nashville."

He also said he has found many benefits to his newest venture—he gets paid for doing something he loves.

"I charge \$50 an hour which comes to about \$200 an event," he said. "But when I'm needed for multiple events

special arrangements can be made."

Also, Burnett said "it's gets easier to talk to other promoters and club owners once you have been doing this a while."

As a result, Burnett said he established A-List Entertainment in late December 2007. His team includes seven street team members and three business partners.

They host their own parties and partner with other entertainment and promotion firms in the city.

In his short time working, he has met Young Buck, DJ Drama, Kinfolk Thugs, and Yo Gotti.

After meeting Young Buck, Burnett said he is now on the artist's promotion team for his forthcoming album.

Additionally, DJ Weezy has his own mixtape, *Get Familiar*, coming out later this month.

He also serves as a mentor in his free time, helping two other upcoming deejays. Despite his seemingly never-ending commitments, Burnett said he finds much joy in his new passion.

"You gotta love the music," he said. "Sometimes I forget I'm getting paid."

DJ Weezy can be heard spinning at Rhythm Kitchen's Sold Out Saturdays. •

## GET MORE FIBER IN YOUR DIET

Continued from page 15

body. While we are young, we should do everything in our power to achieve mental, physical, and spiritual health."

Students who find themselves always eating and never full should switch to a diet more rich in fiber. Fiber-rich foods have very few calories, but make your body feel full. MedicineNet informs us that a healthy fiber goal is about 25 grams per day.

Dieters can get more fiber by eating more vegetables and fruits.

A well-known weight loss anecdote is to burn more calories than are consumed. When combined with exercise and diet change, weight loss usually happens.

Exercising not only burns calories but gets you physically in shape. According to Medical News, exercising positively affects the immune system and can reduce the risk of certain cancers. It strengthens heart and lung function, which enables the blood to carry more oxygen. Accordingly, a good exercise plan includes a cardio routine.

It's easy to start a diet but even easier to fall into weight cycling. A "yo-yo" dieting phase, in which weight fluctuates cyclically, is not good for the body. It increases the amount of fat tissue you have, increases the risk of hypertension and gallbladder disease, and diminishes metabolism. •

# Day 26 debut a perfect blend of R&B old and new

Day 26

Day 26

Grade: B+

When Sean "P. Diddy" Combs set out to create the next big thing in R&B, he enlisted the help of ABC/MTV's *Making the Band* and held two nationwide searches.

The final prospects seemed promising, and nine episodes later, five men—Brian Andrews, Mike McCluney, Qwanell "Q" Mosley, Robert Curry and Willie Taylor—emerged victorious.

Now, after two seasons, three weeks of recording, and the help of some of the genre's greatest producers old and new, Diddy and the highly anticipated quintet, known as Day 26, realized their goal with the release of the group's self-titled debut album on the highly-appropriate date of March 26.

After nearly two weeks of sales, the album rests comfortably atop Billboard magazine's Top 200 Albums, knocking label-mate Danity Kane's *Welcome to the*



COURTESY OF DAY26ONLINE.COM

Bad Boy's latest R&B group, Day 26, released their debut album on March 26.

*Dollhouse* from the top spot.

Day 26 plays like the perfect soundtrack to a night on the town. The first four tracks are surefire club bangers, motivating listeners to hit the streets and get the girl they've been lusting after.

After dancing real close, the fellas turn down the tempo a bit to make way for casual conversation and, perhaps, a romantic interlude or two.

From the very beginning of the album, the guys make it known that their passion is as overt as it is strong.

Amidst a fast-paced track laden with a drum pattern that's sure to send folks to the dance floors, *I'm the Reason* is a taunting tune letting the listener know

that these guys not only put it down in the studio but also in the bedroom.

Once their swag has lured ladies in, they follow it up with lead single *Got Me Going*, a Mario Winans and Diddy-produced joint released in mid-February.

Using a moving bass line and stringed symphony, the track complements the voices of all five members who show a demonstrated refinement from their *Making the Band* days.

The album takes a marked turn from "in the club" to "between the sheets." A steamy mid-tempo *In My Bed* starts this transition and makes way for songs like *Come With Me* and *Co-Star*, both reminiscent of *New Edition*. •

While sensuality takes its course, the guys truly define a sound of their own on the pleading *Are We in This Together* and the apologetic *Since You've Been Gone*.

On these songs, the vocals are simply stellar—the harmonies remind you of what R&B music should be and, at the same time, make you wonder where it's been for so long.

Over a bombastic track laced with pomp and circumstance, the guys belt out a thankful ode to the people who've contributed to the collective they've become on *If It Wasn't for You*.

They sing, "If it wasn't for you/I'd be living a lie thinking what's wrong was right/...I'd be spending time in prison in my own mind/...I'd be out in these street tryna find a way to make ends meet/...I gotta thank you."

Overall, the album is a nice introduction to a real R&B group with a real R&B sound. Aside from a few filler songs, Day 26 is a cohesive project; fans will be rightfully anxious to see how the quintet develops in years to come. •



# THE METER SPORTS

Monday, April 7, 2008

Volume 58 Issue 34

## Star athlete juggles marriage, friendship with classes

By Renee Taylor  
Contributing Reporter

TSU has found an awe-inspiring, multifaceted and extremely dedicated young woman in sprinter Dominique Ward Holmes of the Tigerbelles.

This season marks her fourth year with the Tigerbelles, which came with a lot more responsibility.

This season Holmes was asked to do more for her team and she delivered.

In the 2008 Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships, Holmes won four gold medals in the 55 meter, 200 meter, 400 meter, the 4x400 relay and was named Female Athlete of the Championships.

With the win in the 200 and 400,0

Ward became only the third female to OVC history to achieve that accomplishment. She also named by the conference the Female Track Athlete of the Year.

"Dominique is a hard worker," said head track coach Chandra Chesseborough. "She brings a lot to the table for this team; she is very focused and determined young lady."

Holmes is unlike most college students and starts her day at 5 a.m. when she wakes up. Before going to class, she goes to weight training sessions and after class goes to practice.

Holmes also finds time for her best friend, Franz, who just so happen to be her husband. Franz and Dominique met in the weight room and after only really being a couple for three months they tied

the knot on March 3, 2007.

"It seemed like it was destined to happen," Franz Holmes said. "We both run the same event, the 200 and the 400. We are both captains for our team and I'm a Sigma and she is a Zeta."

Holmes admitted it was difficult to be a student athlete. She said she would not encourage anyone to venture into that world unless he or she is willing to be completely dedicated.

She also reminded her peers that school comes first and if one can overcome the obstacles of fatigue and time management, then being a student athlete is definitely plausible.

Holmes has dreams on going to the 2008 Olympics games.

She is in training at this very moment

and expecting to go to the next level. She said her most enthusiastic cheerleader is her husband, and with insight from her coach she knows that she can achieve her highest goal.

"Just because you are from a small school does not mean that you won't make it to the next level," Chesseborough said. "Everyone puts their pants on the same."

Holmes would like to the TSU family to remember her as a hard worker who never gave, was humble and a very hungry woman.

She vehemently believes that no matter what, it is possible to attain one's dream.

A saying that that her husband recites incessantly motivates her: Hard work beats talent that doesn't work.

## Anthony still trying to find a home

By LaVonte Young  
Sports Editor

Before leaving school in 2004 one thing was certain, and it was Charles Anthony was going to put on a show on the football field. During his time at TSU he racked up over 5,057 yards and was named All American.

Since leaving Big Blue country Anthony has received many opportunities to show what he can do. After the draft of 2005 Anthony signed a free agent contract to play for the Tennessee Titans, but before he had a chance to put on pads he received a call saying that he was cut.

"I had other teams interested but I choose the Titans," Anthony said. "I believe if I went to another team I would have a better chance."

After going from city to city to workout with teams and without having any success, Anthony received a call from NFL Europe. While playing in Europe he got to meet up with former TSU players Mike Jones, who was the Head coach of the Frankfurt Galaxy.

While in Frankfurt, Anthony rushed for 244 yards on 51 carries and three touch-

downs. The Galaxy traded Anthony to the Rhein Fire where he rushed for 158 yards on 38 carries and a touchdown.

"Mike gave me an opportunity to keep playing football and get film," Anthony said.

Playing in Germany was different for the Orlando native.

"It was very different for me, "Anthony said. "I could not understand what they were saying. The only time I had to do there is play ball"

According to Anthony playing football in Europe helped keep his career going by getting film. After NFL Europe folded last year Anthony had another layoff in between playing. The pattern of his professional career continued, as it has been, when one door closes another would open.

While working out at home in Orlando the Montana Billings Outlaws called him to come to training camp.

"One of my friends showed them film of me," Anthony said. "They liked what they saw and brought me up."

The Billings Outlaws is a member of the United Indoor league. This is also experience very different for him. Anthony had to step out of his comfort zone to play for the Outlaws, and instead of lining up

behind the quarter-back, Anthony is lining up as a wide receiver.

"I had to get use to running routes," Anthony said. "It was not that hard to get the basic of receiver because when I catch the ball I become a running back again."

His running back skills are helping gain chunks of yards after the catch. By impressing the scouts that come to the Outlaw games, Anthony has a work out with the Canadian Football league.

When his time is up playing football, the Big Blue All time leading rusher has plans on coming back to TSU to finish his degree. Anthony was only one semester away from graduating.

Moving from city to city and even to another country help to keep his career going. Anthony admits it is hard, but he would not change it.

## SPORTS CALENDAR

Week of April 7-30

### Football

4/12 Blue-White game 2pm

### Softball

4/9 @ Tn Tech 4pm

4/12 vs. Austin Peay (DH) 12pm

### Tigerbelles

4/12 Boston Moon Classic 10am

### Flying Tigers

Boston Moon Classic 10am

### Men and Women Tennis

4/8 @ Tn Tech 1pm

4/9 vs. Samford 1pm

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**SGA Vice President 2008-2009**

**AS SGA VICE PRESIDENT I WILL:**  
Rebuild SGA and TSU by developing and enforcing accountability of student leaders and administration, promoting and improving communication and reviving and transferring the Big Blue Spirit!

**ASHLEY FLOYD SCEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, April 6** - 3pm SGA & Class Nomination Convention (Forum)  
Walking Caravan immediately following the Nomination Convention  
7-10pm 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament (Basketball Courts behind Gentry)

**Monday, April 7** - 12:30-3pm Construction Zone Obstacle Course (Wilson Lawn)  
4pm SGA Forum (Forum) 6pm President and Vice-President Debate (Forum)  
7-10pm TSU Mixer/Block Party (Gazebo-Behind Boyd and Watson Halls)

**Tuesday, April 8** - 11-1pm Music in the Courtyard (Courtyard in front of Student Center) 4pm SGA Candidates Rally (Gentry Center) 6pm Class Officer Forum (Forum) 8pm Mr. T.S.U. Pageant (Kean Hall)

**Wednesday, April 9** - 1-3pm Freestyle BBQ (Gazebo-Behind Boyd and Watson Halls)  
7pm Miss T.S.U. Pageant (Kean Hall) 10-until "I Love TSU" Party (TBA)

**Thursday, April 10** - 4-8:30pm Early Voting (Avon Williams)

**Friday, April 11** - 10am-7pm Voting (2nd Floor FPCC)

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